

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) Particles of mixed metal oxide that include at least two metal species, said particles having a grain size within the range of 1-100 nm, wherein the particles are substantially crystalline and contain only small or negligible amounts of amorphous material and where the at least to metal species are uniformly dispersed in the particles.

22. (New) Particles according to Claim 21, wherein the particles have disordered pore structures.

23. (New) Particles according to Claim 21, wherein the particles exhibit a broad distribution of pore sizes.

24. (New) Particles according to Claim 21, wherein the metal oxide is formed from a metal cation selected from the group consisting of metal cations from Groups 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A of the Periodic Table, transition metals, lanthanides and actinides, and mixtures thereof.

25. (New) Particles according to Claim 21, wherein the grain size of the particles falls within the range of 1-50 nm.

26. (New) Particles according to Claim 25, wherein the grain size of the particles falls within the range of 1-20 nm.

27. (New) Particles according to Claim 25, wherein the grain size of the particles falls within the range of 1-10 nm.

28. (New) Particles according to Claim 25, wherein the grain size of the particles falls within the range of 2-8 nm.

29. (New) Particles according to Claim 21, wherein the particles are phase-pure.